

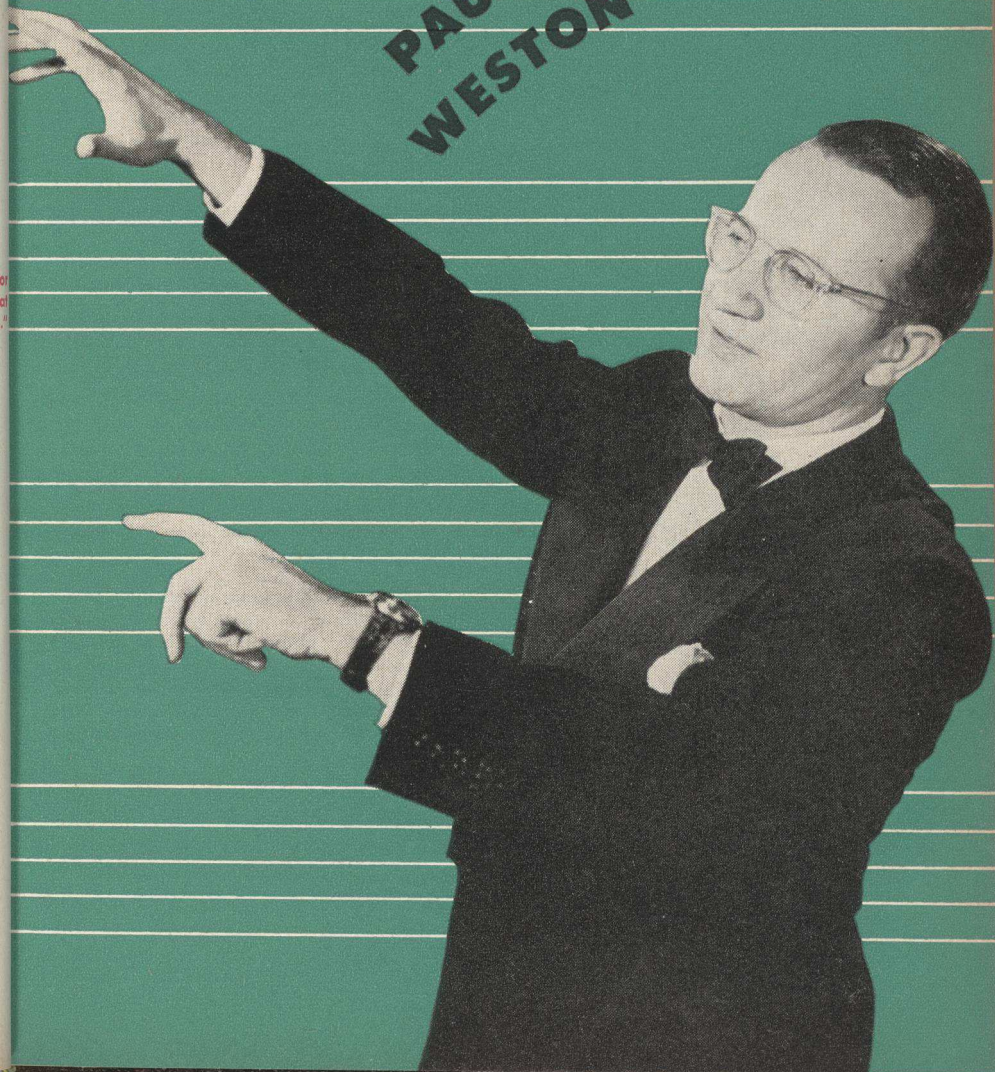
  
*Capitol*  
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

news

APRIL • 1950

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**PAUL  
WESTON**





EDITED BY DAVE DEXTER, JR.

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**THE RAGE** of the "National Barn Dance" show, heard each Saturday via ABC from Chicago, is Bob Atcher. Bob's soulful guitar and voice are soon to be featured only on Capitol platters; he just signed a new contract. Born in Kentucky, on a farm which today is part of the massive Fort Knox plot, Atcher is famous throughout the world for his western and folk music talents. Capitol's Lee Gillette completed negotiations which will bring out Atcher's first disc this month. Details on Page 10.



## Rambling On a Battered Underwood

Despite those erudite statements on Page 5, Cholly Barnett is abandoning his six-weeks-old small combo and reorganizing a 20-piece band. He's in New York, and will tee' off in the east . . . And Ben Goodman, his lessons with Reginald Kell ended, is ready to shuttle over to Europe again in late April. He and his Selmer stick will appear in several countries which were skipped in 1949. . . . Freddy Martin starts a new TV show in Hollywood this month with KTTV paying him \$1,500 a shot, sponsored or not. . . . One of the local niteries is trying to cash in on the flying you-know-what craze. They've got a tiny table, complete with four miniature chairs, on which sets a placard reading: "Reserved For Flying Saucer Pilots 23 Inches Tall Or Under."

Last month's coal shortage fouled up Stan Kenton's concert tour. But he's back on schedule now and doing great on most dates. . . . Coast hipsters are digging young Cora Martin's sacred solos on those Sunday eve "Echoes of Eden" airings over KFWB. She's as great as Mahalia and may become even better.

Nappy Lamare booked his own Strawhat Seven into Ciro's in Hollywood himself, landed his own TV show with Frank Bull and is making his own recording deals without help from a personal manager or booker. He also operates his own night club—what heights could the personable little Noo 'Leans guitarist reach with a little help? . . . Anita Boyer, the singer, and Saxist Bob Dukoff deserted Hollywood and are now living in New York permanently with their daughter. . . . Gene Norman admits he finally dropped "a certain amount" of money on his concerts. And with Louie and Duke, no less!

Frankie Laine and Nan Grey have postponed that trip to the preacher until June. . . . A new singer on the west coast is using the handle of "Red Lyte." He's with the Johnny Otis outfit. . . . Much of this new crop of Dixieland jazz is so phony it is tarnishing—and may kill—the good. Singers who sneered at traditional music 10 months ago are pleading for Dixie accompaniments. . . . You reckon those fly-boys really are only 23 inches tall?

There's talk now that Vic Damone's first film at MGM will be "They All Sing," a musical which features Sinatra. . . . Steve Allen clefted that new "Let's Go To Church Next Sunday" ditty, which Mag Whiting and Beaver Wakely duet on a disc. . . . S'funny how nobody ever agrees with the Movie Academy's music awards. But then nobody agrees on music anyway. . . . Let us know when YOU see a saucer, huh?

## Nichols Signs New Contract For Records

Loring (Red) Nichols and his Famous Pennies, one of the oldest and most popular name bands in the world, have been signed to record exclusively for Capitol.

Nichols, now playing every night at Sardi's Monkey Room on Hollywood's Hollywood Boulevard, has made discs for Capitol previously. But he and his band, until now, were never tied to a contract.

Grabbing the renowned Utah cornet star, who was a famous leader in New York before he was 20, gives Capitol three of the nation's greatest Dixieland bands. Sharkey Bonano and his Kings of Dixieland, favorites throughout the south and a fixture at the Hotel Roosevelt in New Orleans, and Pete Daily's combo also are pacted to long-term exclusive binders with the Cap waxworks.

Nichols features Joe Rushton on bass saxophone, King Jackson on trombone, Rollie Culver, drums; Bobby Hammack, piano, and Rosy McHargue on clarinet. His first platter under his new contract couples parts one and two of "Battle Hymn Of The Republic," recently released and already spinning in the jukes in 48 states.

Red makes his permanent home in North Hollywood.

## Doris Day Pegged For 'Sunshine' Pic

Warner Brothers just assigned Doris Day to star in "Painting The Clouds With Sunshine," a musical soon to roll at the Burbank studio. Doris, for years Les Brown's thrush, has now attained the "star" rank on the big WB lot in Burbank.



**STILL BLOWING** that wailing cornet to the four winds, Red Nichols is featured with his Pennies nightly, in Hollywood, at Sardi's, and now that he's been signed to a fat new contract, his records will be appearing regularly on the purple Capitol label. Red is Mike Levin's favorite musician.

## Murray, Livingston Named Cap Veeps

Newly-installed in his offices of Capitol Records in Hollywood, James W. Murray, for 22 years a leading figure within the recording industry, has been elected a vice-president of the company at a meeting of the firm's board of directors.

Murray, for several years a resident of Japan as an executive with both RCA-Victor and Columbia, is now serving Capitol in an executive position. Also elected to a vice-presidency with Capitol was Alan W. Livingston, in charge of albums and nationally noted for his children's packages. Glenn E. Wallichs, Cap's president, announced both moves in mid-March following the meeting of the board.

## Cole, Trio On Road

King Cole and the Trio skip from Pittsburgh to St. Louis April 8. Combo, which just closed at the N. Y. Paramount, will do a week at the Riviera Club in the Missouri city.

## Mayo, Cagney, MacRae To Be In New Film

Gordon MacRae starts work next month in what may be his biggest film assignment.

With James Cagney and Virginia Mayo as his co-stars, MacRae will play an important role in "The West Point Story," which Warner Brothers is shooting in Technicolor. The producer is Louis F. Edelman.

Still featured on the "Railroad Hour" airshow and on records, MacRae's rise in show business has been spectacular since he first bagged a singing job in Horace Heidt's pre-war stage band. Gordie now has been seen in a half-dozen films, all at Warner's.

Roy Del Ruth is directing the "West Point" pic and it will get the gun as soon as Miss Mayo returns from England, where she has been co-starring with Gregory Peck in "Captain Horatio Hornblower." Her return is slated for early May, the studio said.

## L. A. Greets Ella Fitzgerald Again

Ella Fitzgerald swung back into Los Angeles March 28, creating a flurry among California jazz fans. She will sing nightly at the Oasis, a neighborhood bistro not far from the U. S. C. campus, for at least two weeks and possibly longer. Ella, who first got raves in the middle 1930's when the late Chick Webb gave her her first pro job after she had won an amateur chirp competition in a New York vaude house, plays Los Angeles about once annually and is reported to be tucking away \$1,500 a week at the Oasis in addition to 50 per cent of the loot taken in via door admissions.





**ALTHOUGH SHE** was born and reared in Lake Charles, deep in the Louisiana bayou country, Nellie Lutcher has never been back there since she moved to California in the 1930's. This month, with Earl Hyde, drums, and Benny Booker, bass, Nel will undertake her first Dixie tour, teeing off in the New Orleans Aud April 15-16. She will get \$2,000 for the two nights.

A skein of one-night stands will follow the New Orleans dates, with Lake Charles included, before she returns to New York's Cafe Society in Greenwich Village May 11.

Skinney Ennis took a Los Angeles band to the Hotel Roosevelt in New Orleans March 8 for a month.

Jack Fina's crew starts a three-weeker at the Aragon, Ocean Park, Cal., April 7. Pianist will nab \$2,000 a week.

First engagement for the Red Norvo Trio since their two-month run in Honolulu was at the Haig nitory in L. A. Combo opened March 8.

The Carnival, Minneapolis, plays Peggy Lee and Dave Barbour three weeks starting April 6, then Mel Torme and Jean Carroll follow on April 27 for a fortnight.

Marvin Ash, Oklahoma pianist, going big at the Hi-Ho Inn in L. A. He also has two TV shows and a daily radio program.

KNX-CBS comic, pianist and joker-of-all-trades Steve Allen, by far the best new talent to pop up on the west coast in years, snagged a spot in 20th-Fox's "I'll Get By" flicker now shooting. Harry James' band, June Haver,



**STRIKING OUT** on her own after seven years with the Pied Pipers, and before that, a mere sparrow in her sister Ina Ray Hutton's orchestra, June Hutton is seeking to climb the success ladder as a singing single. And she's doing it in Hollywood, which she now considers her home base.

Gloria DeHaven and others also are in it. Allen's midnight broadcasts have every musician in Southern California listening.

Jeri Sullivan has returned to singing after retiring for marriage a couple of years back.

Frank DeVol heads out on a concert and theater tour in June, taking his radio ork, plus a fem singer and an act or two. The tour will include his home town, Canton, Ohio.

Bobby Sherwood reorganizing his band, and it's Dixie.

"Jazz In The Afternoon," a series of Sunday daytime sessions at the Florentine Gardens, Hollywood, was launched March 19 by Bernie Billings, tenor saxist, and the Hot Jazz Society. Billings hires two jazz combos, featuring men like Marty Marsala, Nick Fatool, Matty Matlock and the like, and

# Weston's Music 'Most Played' On The Radio

(Front Cover Feature)

If every disc jockey in the United States suddenly went off the air, Pat Weston's music still would be regularly broadcast over more than 1,500 stations every week.

Weston worked night and day last fall, arranging and conducting numbers for the "Naval Reserve Show" which was transcribed in Hollywood. Now those transcriptions, each running 15 minutes and featuring the Starlighters, Announcer Tom Reddy and 13 top name singers taking turns as guests, are being aired all over the nation. And they are making the former Dartmouth College student—he made Phi Beta Kappa there—even more popular than ever.

Weston probably makes more records, too, than any other musician. His skill as an arranger, his versatility and his knack of featuring the better musicians in his band are factors behind his success story. Top singers put each other's hair fighting for his accompaniments. And his albums have been steady, popular sellers down through the years.

Weston, since the fall of 1941, has served as musical director of Capitol Records, in Hollywood. Before that, he arranged for Dinah Shore, Tommy Dorsey, the old Bob Crosby band and numerous other Grade-A attractions. But he would trade all his fame in music if he could make the grade—even as a utility infielder—with a major league baseball club.

alternates them for four hours. Bernie and his pickup band also sub Tuesday nights at the Hangover Club on Cajun Verret's night off.



**HARRY JAMES**  
With Don Otis over KLAC

"Every time I take a vacation the word goes out that Harry James has broken up his band for good. On the contrary, my band will soon go out on a long tour again, heading as far east as the Atlantic Ocean. And what do you like in the fifth at Tanforan tomorrow, Don?"

**EDDIE CONDON**  
In the New York Daily News

"The bop guys flat their fifths . . . we Dixielanders drink ours."

**CAB CALLOWAY**  
Writing in the Los Angeles Sentinel

"New York is loaded with machines that give you merchandise for money. There are candy and gum machines . . . peanut machines, too. You put a coin in the coffee machine and it sneers at you. You try another coin. No coffee. A third coin and you get a Hershey bar . . . but New Yorkers take these things in stride. It is the game of man vs. machine and they have lost. They take the Hershey, eat it, and enjoy it. Even though they wanted coffee."

**GEORGE FRAZIER**  
In Pageant Magazine

"At least six men deserve to be considered for the tenor saxophone chair in any all-star band. They are Bud Freeman, Lester Young, Eddie Miller, Coleman Hawkins, the late Herschel Evans and the late Choo Berry. On the basis of their top performances, it is not an easy job to choose one over the others."

**CHARLIE BARNET**  
Quoted in the Hollywood Reporter

"In order to have the true jazz feeling, I believe you should have a small outfit. The larger the band, the more unwieldy and colder it gets. . . . My new group isn't using Frances Wayne in the way most bands have vocalists



**SOON TO** cross the Atlantic for a personal appearance at the mighty London Palladium, Frankie (Sugar Chile) Robinson first had to wax a batch of new records, and here the 10-year-old wizard is caught on his most recent session for Capitol. The photo, by W. H. Miller, shows Sugar learning "Bouncing Ball Boogie" from the composer himself, Down Beat Magazine's Sharon A. Pease. Just released, it is backed by what Sugar Chile claims is "the best record I ever made," a jumping novelty titled "Say, Little Girl."

## 'Smiling' Film Gets Set For Early Release

Columbia Pictures is really rolling this month with its star-studded "When You're Smiling" film. Kay Starr, Frankie Laine and Bob Crosby, to date, have garnered the biggest publicity portions. All three are to be seen in the production, which will be released to theaters throughout the U. S. this summer.

Also signed to be seen—and heard—are the singing Modernaires with Paul Kelly, who just ended a run at the Mark Hopkins in San Francisco; the Mills Brothers and Miguelito Valdes, Cuban singer. According to Jonie Taps, a former songplugger who will produce "When You're Smiling" at the Gower Street studio in Hollywood, the public always supports musical flickers if the films are really entertaining. With a half-dozen recording stars of top-rung calibre assured for the pic, Taps is confident it will be even more successful at the wickets than was Columbia's earlier "Make Believe Ballroom" entry, which was based on a similar idea.

sitting around. That's always been my beef with the handling of singers; they are used poorly. If a singer is good enough to be employed then they should be introduced properly. Frances sings several times during the evening and is spotlighted each time, instead of sitting around with nothing to do between vocals."



## Capitol Western Hits

'CRY OF THE WILD GOOSE' - Tennessee Ernie

'PETER COTTONTAIL' - Jimmy Wakely

'WITH MEN WHO KNOW TOBACCO BEST  
(IT'S WOMEN TWO TO ONE)' - Tex Williams

'I LOVE YOU BECAUSE' - Leon Payne

'THE TWO YEARS WE WERE MARRIED'  
- Eddie Kirk

'DOIN' FINE' - Ann Jones

'COWBOY AUCTIONEER' - Tex Ritter

'I DIDN'T MEAN TO CRY' - Oklahoma Sweethearts

'ALL THAT GOES UP MUST COME DOWN'  
- Hank Thompson

'CHUG-A-LUG' (The "Drink It Down" Song) - Country Washburne

*Available on either 78 or 45 rpm*



STRICTLY DEAF when his musicians grumble about their salaries, Louie Armstrong says he honestly doesn't know just how much loot his men get. Jack Teagarden, Earl Hines, Barney Bigard, Arvell Shaw, Cozy Cole and Velma Middleton are featured in his combo.

## Scuttles Band, Joins Sinatra

Pianist Skitch Henderson junked his dance band in March and went to work as accompanist for Frank Sinatra, now doing a single at the Copacabana in New York and soon to appear at the Palladium, London.

Henderson led his own band several years. Eventually, it was said, he "may" return to the field as a leader. Skitch intends to go to England with Sinatra and will also be featured with the New Jersey baritone on his Lucky Strike nightly broadcasts.

## Muggsy Spanier To Sanfran's Hangover

Cornet tooter Muggsy Spanier and his combo come from Chicago April 3 to open at the Hangover Club in San Francisco, where Pete Daily, Wingy Manone and other Dixiecats have been jamming 'em in recently. Mugs is said to be nicking the spot for \$1,600 a week for his 6-piece combo.

## Fields West, Too

Herbie Fields and his unit will open shortly at the New Orleans Swing Club in San Francisco. Combo shapes up with seven men.

# Satchmo' a Happy Man; No Headaches For Him As He Approaches 50

Louis Armstrong, leader of a little jazz combo which probably does more consistent big business than any other band in the world, doesn't know what his musicians receive in the way of salaries.

## Joe Glaser Behind The Band

In Los Angeles last month for his annual run—and fling on Bing Crosby's radio show—Satchmo' sat in his dressing room eating big chunks of lemon pie. He washed it down with a pint of milk. And he confessed to Dick Williams, theatrical editor of the Mirror, that he blows his big golden horn better when he isn't worrying about payrolls and tax computations.

"Joe Glaser formed this band and appointed me leader," Armstrong, at 49 the undisputed jazz champ of the world, admitted. "We've been going three or four years now. I don't know what any of the men get. I can't concentrate and play my heart out and pay the musicians off. Can't put my mind on it.

## Never Sees A Contract!

"I haven't seen a contract in 10 years. Papa Glaser handles all that stuff. I don't need contracts.

"Now you take a big band like I used to have. Bound to have some dummies in it. Some cats that can't play. Here everyone stands on his own. They can even jump into a classical number if they have to."

Louie's wife Lucille is traveling with him. They've been married 10 years. "That's nothin.' This is my fourth wife. I was married to my third wife Lil for 18 years."

He's getting ready to write his autobiography for Harper & Bros. He's delighted to do it, considers it no great task.

"Typing is my hobby," he explained simply.

Although the All-Stars went at a fast clip through Europe (65 concerts in 35 days from Helsinki to Rome), they took just three weeks off stateside before hitting the road again across country.

"We don't need no long vacation," Louie said. "If I stay off that horn a month my lips would be like a dishrag. What good is vacations anyway? I used to go up to Idlewild in Michigan every summer with Lil. Every night we went to a place called the Indian Inn. We'd come trippin' back through those woods to our cabin every night a-giggle and it would take all next day to sober up. No, sir."

## Five, Six Hours' Sleep Enough

Louie says he now is in "perfect" physical condition. He makes a practice of getting in bed around 5 a.m. and getting five or six hours of sleep. Then, he says, "if I can always have a good, hot supper, that'll hold me good. It's when you miss those hot meals and that hay-time that you break down."

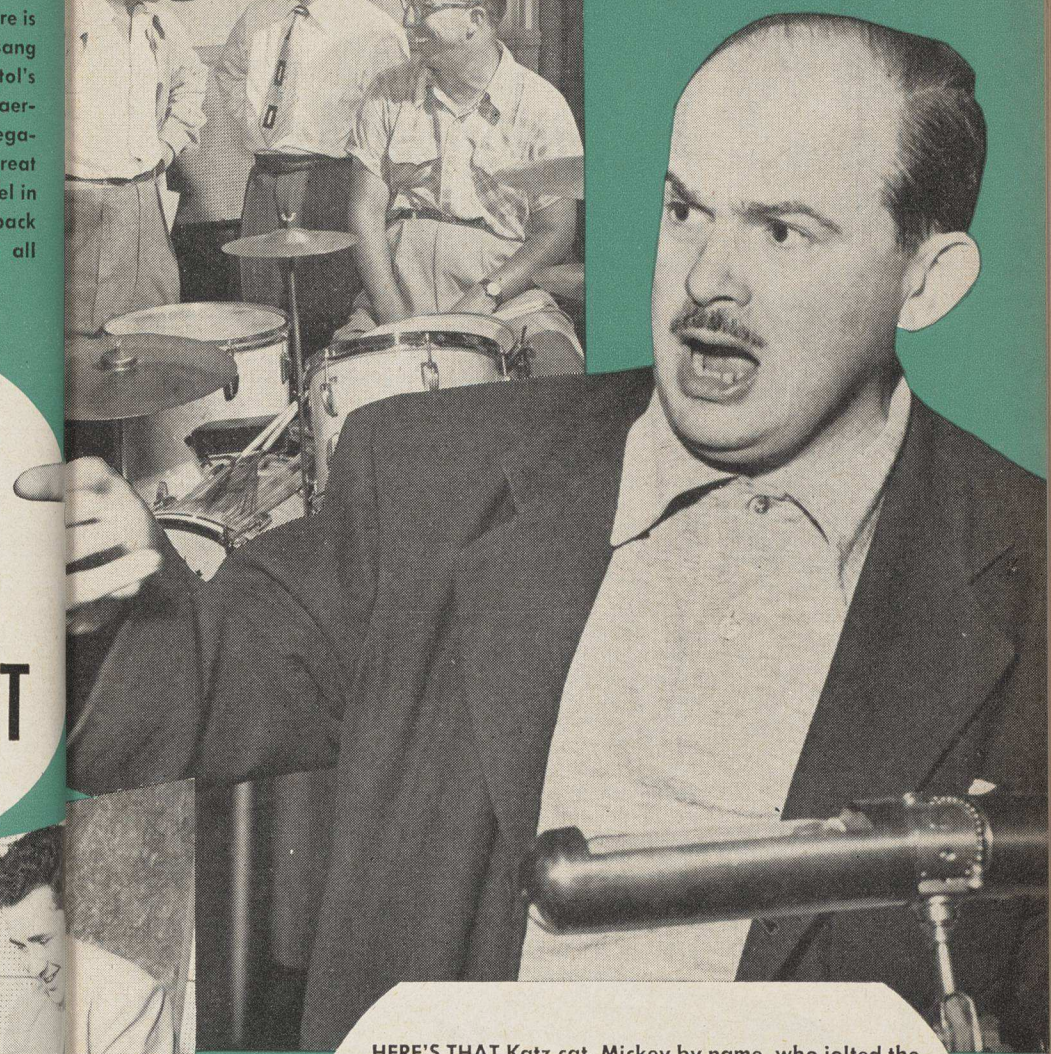
Louie's combo hasn't changed much since his previous L. A. visit. Cozy Cole has replaced Big Sidney Catlett on drums but Barney Bigard, Jack Teagarden, Arvell Shaw, Earl Hines and Velma Middleton are set in the band. And when Louis stands up with his handkerchief and his horn and goes into a solo, things happen. They always have — and Louie, grinning, says he hopes they always will. "Music is my life," he says.





THAT BAKE-A-CAKE man, Benny Strong, knew he had a hit when his band etched the ditty two months ago in California. Here is Benny on the session — he sang the vocal himself — with Capitol's Lou Busch and Drummer Gil Baerwaldt. Strong and his aggregation recently wound up a great run at the Mark Hopkins Hotel in San Francisco and are now back in the Middlewest doing it all over again.

IN THE  
*April*  
SPOTLIGHT



HERE'S THAT Katz cat, Mickey by name, who jolted the juke boxes last month with his belly-laugh version of "There's a Hole in the Old Iron Curtain." Katz cleffed it himself, arranged it and sings it. And he couples it with another goofy entry, "The Papoofnik Polka." Just a few seasons back, Mickey was featured with the Spike Jones troupe. But now he's his own boss.



WITH A right hand like a pneumatic drill and a left hand that pounds sledgehammer style, Julia Lee is working her way west this month while two of her records ("Do You Want It?" and "Don't Save It Too Long") ride the best seller lists. Her big, rocking voice and her solid keyboard antics have kept Julia among the nation's most popular waxers for many years. And now her records, for Capitol, are selling big in foreign countries.



THEY CALL little Sammy Davis, Jr., the "man of many voices" although he is even more renowned, throughout the 48 states, as a dancer with the Will Mastin Trio. Sammy, shown with his arranger and conductor, Dave Cavanaugh, may have his biggest record with "Laura," in which he comes on with astounding impressions of Frankie Laine, Billy Eckstine and Vaughn Monroe. Now out on tour, Davis had never made a record until Capitol signed him in 1949. Cavanaugh, famed as a tenor saxist, is one of the popular maestros on the Pacific coast. He hits the road this month too.



• Western News •

# Bob Atcher To Sing, Play On Capitol Discs

By BEEP ROBERTS

Noted folk and western music singer Bob Atcher has just been signed to make records for Capitol—and nobody else.

Atcher started singing at the University of Kentucky. Now he is the star over Chicago's WLS, morning and afternoon. He also has a network show Saturday night on ABC and a TV program of his own in the Windy City. His first records, for Capitol, will be out in April.

## Gals Are Jumping, Too

Another WLS star who also is debuting on Cap is Phyllis Brown, who duets with Bob Flannery on a coupling of "Second-Hand Heart" and "We Get Along So Good Together." She's only 19, and a looker!!

Ann Jones is running her own platter party over KFOX in Long Beach, Cal. And she frequently hops into Hollywood to slice discs.

How 'bout the new issue of "Movie Thrills" mag, with fea-



THAT BIG and box-like camera at the left is strictly from TV. And it is catching an assemblage of Hollywood performers who recently appeared together over KECA on Russ Morgan's show. Closest to the lens is Tennessee Ernie. The Smith Twins, Louanne and Suzanne, separate Ernie from his pal and solo guitarist, Eddie Kirk, who sings purty fair song himself. That's Emsee Morgan in the rear, halter and hairless, but still doubling trombone and piano.

tures and foxy pictures on Tennessee Ernie, Jim Wakely, Margaret Whiting, Tex Williams, Smiley Burnette and Gordie MacRae?

## Merle Travis In East

Meredith Willson's new network show during April and May will feature guest appearances by Wakely, Tennessee Ernie, Jimmie Davis, Eddie Kirk and Ann Jones. Willson himself originally came out of Iowa.

Merle Travis is working out of Washington, D. C., with Grandpa Jones. . . . James and Martha Carson doing regular stints over WNOX in Knoxville. . . . Andy Parker and the Plainsmen are doing two fine TV shows a week in Hollywood, Thursdays at 7 p. m. over KECA and Saturdays at

7 p. m., same station. KECA has the biggest and most realistic TV set in the world. Horses run, wagons roll, guns shoot—just as fancy as the better movie sets. . . . And Hank Thompson scoot back to Dallas, his home ground, this month. He's been in Chicago.

Tex Williams has a new sponsor on his TV show over KNB in Hollywood. This is the powerful NBC video outlet in Southern California and Williams, who also has been making movies (photo on Page 13) with purty gals, gets fan mail by the bushel baskets. . . . Country Washburne, who can play any instrument—he also sings—has a hit disc in "Chug-A-Lug." Country leads the band for Cur Massey and Martha Tilton over CBS and plays tuba on Pet Daily's jazz biscuits.

# 'Jazz and Classical Musician Are In Same Boat,' Kenton Writes

By STAN KENTON

A music listening experience should be fresh and exciting, regardless of whether it is in the field of jazz or in the field of classical, or so-called "legitimate" music. Both the sincere legitimate composer and the jazz musician reveal in their music how they are affected by the world of today. If the creator of the music is a man of ability and stature the music will have character and a definite direct message.

## "They Learn From One Another"

There is a definite and profound sympathy between the contemporary, legitimate composer and the present day jazz musician. Each man watches closely the work in the other field, for they both share, as a common objective, the desire to create new musical sounds. They frequently learn from one another. However, thus far, neither has been able to compose successfully for the other medium. Many jazz writers are expert in arranging for the brass and woodwinds but they sound like weak imitations of Haydn

when writing for strings. On the other hand, the attempts of Ravel and Stravinsky to incorporate jazz elements in their music have missed the mark completely and are pretty dismal efforts.

Both the legitimate and the jazz musician of today suffer from frustration in their creative work. I feel certain that even men like Bartok, when composing, were haunted by how far they could go in their originality in creating new sounds. In Bartok's "Music for String Instruments, Percussion, and Celesta," I am fascinated by the third section of the music, which provides an overwhelming listening experience. There are other sections of the work where I feel that Bartok compromised, with the result that the music appears routine to me.

My own interest in legitimate music lies primarily with the moderns. This can roughly be described as beginning with the time of Debussy and Schoenberg (early 1900's) and continuing down to the present. My greatest enjoyment comes from the music of Bartok and Stravinsky. The last named is in my opinion the greatest figure in contemporary music.

It is the music of men like them that should receive the principal attention of our schools in their classes of Music Appreciation. The continued emphasis on the greatness of music written in 1750 or 1870 gives a false perspective to



**SPEEDING EAST**, to open at the Trianon Ballroom on Chicago's south side April 8 with Jan Garber's ork will be Bob Grabeau, Jan's featured vocalist, who was born and reared in California and who, until he joined Garber's gang, had never been out of the Golden Bear state.

## Palladium Brings Martin Back Fast

Freddy Martin brings his orchestra back to the Hollywood Palladium, following the current Claude Thornhill, on April 11.

Martin's group played the same ballroom just ahead of Thornhill and racked up boffo box-office marks, the best the spot has enjoyed in three years.

the student, who finds it easy to believe that all the great legitimate composers are dead and buried. Music is continually growing and while no attempt should be made to minimize the compositions of Bach and Wagner, too much emphasis on their names and music results in the false belief that no worthwhile legitimate music is being composed today.

## Stan Kenton's April Route

- 5th—Providence, R. I.
- 6th—Hartford, Conn.
- 8th and 9th—New York's Carnegie Hall.
- 11th and 12th—Academy of Music in Philadelphia.
- 13th and 14th—Symphony Hall in Boston.
- 15th—Newark, N. J.
- 16th—Lyric Theater in Baltimore.
- 18th—Allentown, Pa.
- 20th—Richmond, Va.
- 21st—Norfolk, Va.
- 22nd—Raleigh, N. C.
- 25th—Atlanta.
- 26th—Memphis.
- 27th—Nashville.
- 30th—New Orleans.

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45

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**CLOSING NIGHT** at the Hotel Statler, New York, for Jimmy Dorsey brought a visit from Andy and Della Russell. They've been out on tour in theaters and niteries with their boffy Mr. and Mrs. act; Jimmy is hot again at the box-office with his Dixie-styled "Original Dorseyland" band. Ray Anthony's band followed Jimmy's at the Statler.

# NEW BOOKS

**JAZZ DIRECTORY**, Part One. By David A. Carey, Albert J. McCarthy and Ralph G. V. Venables. Published in London, distributed in the U. S. A. by Record Changer Magazine, New York.

Possibly the most ambitious work yet to be devoted to jazz records and the artists who made them, "Jazz Directory" will be published at intervals and will list personnels, dates of recording, record numbers and other valuable information for all who are interested in discs.

This first volume covers only the artists whose names start with "A" and "B." From a discographical standpoint, it is highly valuable. But the authors in succeed-

## Just Shows Who Gets The Loot From Discs!

Mr. and Mrs. Al Jarvis last month purchased the \$100,000 house of the late Tommy Lee, radio, TV and motor car millionaire who committed suicide recently. Jarvis has his own radio and TV shows daily over KLAC, Hollywood, and is noted for his "Original Make-Believe Ballroom."

ing volumes should edit their manuscripts more carefully; literally dozens of artists and song titles are misspelled in this initial attempt.

**WHAT COOKS IN HOLLYWOOD.** Published by D. A. V. Service Foundation, Box 7170, Chicago.

A slick little tome containing favorite recipes of 106 noted Hollywood film and music biz greats. Compiled and published by disabled vets and a right fair buy for \$1 at above address.

## Woody's New Ork Heading For N. Y.

Woody Herman's date to open at New York's Bop City is set for April 13. The engagement will run through May 2. Herman, now playing Ciro's in San Francisco, will reorganize his band for the New York commitment. He's been using a small combo since last December but at Bop City he will augment to 17 men and a girl vocalist. With the brownout ended, and arrival of warmer weather, Herman is expected to do well.



**YOU ALMOST** need a program to tell the players on the new "Club 15" show beamed out every evening over CBS from Hollywood. The latest switch in the cast brings Jo Stafford in as the featured female vocalist. She was offered the show more than a month ago and, at first, nixed the offer. But the sponsor upped the ante and Jo signed. Her first broadcast was on March 28 and she will be heard every Tuesday and Thursday.

Bob Crosby replaced Dick Haymes March 27 and is heard daily emceeding the stanza. He also continues his Pet Milk broadcasts from New York every Sabbath; commuting by plane from Hollywood to New York every week has Bob in a spin. But at least, he says, he will get to see the major league ball game occasionally.

The Andrews Sisters, the Mockers, Jerry Gray's orchestra and Del Sharbutt, announcer, continue in their regular "Club 15" spots. La Belle Stafford, incidentally, replaced Evelyn Knight.

Haymes is now in New York starring in an independent movie "St. Benny the Dip." He also is doing frequent TV guest shots and the new Carnation show.

Bing Crosby is up and at it again following surgery; he is planning a trip overseas shortly but will first see his Pittsburgh Pirates start the '50 baseball season.

Rudy Vallee into Hotel Roosevelt, N. Y., April 8. He's also doing a disc jockey stint over Mutual network from Gotham plus TV guest shots here and there.



**THAT'S LESLIE** Banning seeking the shelter of Tex Williams' broad shoulders in this scene from "Rustlers' Ransom," newest of the western film series which Tex has just made for the Universal-International Studios in Hollywood.

## Jo, Dick Bag Milk Program

Jo Stafford, who is just starting as a regular on "Club 15" over CBS, and Dick Haymes, who just quit the same program, have been signed to be the singing stars of the milk-sponsored "Contented Hour" which has been without a featured attraction since Buddy Clark died in a California airplane crash last fall.

Jo and Dick, both of whom sang in Tommy Dorsey's orchestra several years back, were set for permanent spots following their guesting on the March 19 program.

Show is said to be one of the oldest in radio, having been launched in the dark, dank depression days of 1932. They'll be competing with Bob Crosby, who airs for the rival Pet milkworks, and who just returned to "Club 15" following Haymes' exit. Dick is also busy making a motion picture this month, in New York.



**YOU THINK** you've got problems? Consider the theater manager—he who books Duke Ellington's orchestra for "in person" engagements. It's in the contract that all advertising, publicity material and even the overloaded theater marquees follow this exact billing for Duke's appearances:

"Duke Ellington With His World Famous Orchestra and Big Stage Review — Al Hibbler, Kay Davis, Johnny Hodges, Ray Nance, Harry Carney, Tyree Glenn, Lawrence Brown, Chubby Kemp and All the Ellington Greats."

Miss Kemp, incidentally, is the Duke's latest discovery. She's a young and animated blues shouter who works audiences into a frenzy with her frantic singing. The band played a week at the Million Dollar Theater in Los Angeles in March and is now heading back east.

Ella Logan, a big hit recently at Ciro's, nixed a film producer's offer for a big spot in a musical. "How," asked the gal with the plaids, "can I get to the studio at 6 a.m. when I don't go to bed till 7:30?"

Jack Smith taking boxing lessons to get in shape for his role in forthcoming "Marcel Cerdan Story" flicker.

MGM's biggest musical for 1950, "Annie Get Your Gun," will be promoted as no other musical ever was. Studio is sending out troupes of pretty girls, dressed as sharpshooters; they'll be followed by bands of Indians. Betty Hutton is star of the flicker.

Veteran songwriters Peter De Rose and Charlie Tobias are in

Hollywood cleffing new tunes for forthcoming "We're Working Our Way Through College" musical at Warner Bros.

Charlie Barnet's new combo, small but potent, with emphasis on humor, set to open in San Francisco on April 13 at the New Orleans Swing Club.

The Four Jokers at the Toby Jug in the Valley.

Back on the air (KGFJ) after a long absence, Bill Kelso, the original "Hank the Night Watchman" in Los Angeles, is airing from midnight till 6 a.m. every night. He spins more records than any other jockey in California.

Firehouse Five Plus Two playing Fridays and Saturdays at the Aragon Ballroom in Ocean Park.

## MEET THE JOCKEY!

**NOT THE** first fem spinner to be featured in this space, Eileen O'Connell of New York's WMGM



probably is the best-known. She has attracted national attention for her slick "For Children Only" stanza, slanted at youngsters 3 to 13. She was born in Fairview, N. J., and she still lives there despite her work in New York. Eileen designs and makes her own hats; she actually enjoys answering her fan mail. After several years on the air, she claims she has received only one parental letter of complaint. That came to her after she played a record, "Falla, the Story of a Dog." The indignant mother accused her of "attempting to mold the political opinions of children."



## WHOO'S WHERE

CLAUDE THORNHILL: Palladium.  
 FREDDY MARTIN: Palladium, opening April 11.  
 ELLA FITZGERALD: The Oasis.  
 PHIL SPITALNY: Coconut Grove.  
 PAUL NEIGHBORS: Hotel Biltmore.  
 MANNY PRAGER: Vivian Laird's.  
 ALBERT NICHOLAS: Virginia's.  
 BRODIE SHROFF: Double-H Club.  
 RED NICHOLS: Sardi's.  
 CLYDE HURLEY: Hangover Club.  
 BEN POLLACK: Beverly Cavern.  
 MARVIN JOHNSON: York Club.  
 RED NORVO: The Haig.  
 AARON GONZALES: Italian Village.  
 NICK BREWSTER: Cafe Italia.  
 CHUY REYES: Hotel Roosevelt.  
 KID ORY: Royal Room.  
 TED VESELY: Tom-Tom Cafe.  
 MARVIN ASH: Hi-Ho Inn.  
 JESS STACY: Radar Room.  
 FREDDY SLACK: Astor Bar.  
 WALTER GROSS: Nick Arden's.  
 BOBBY TROUP: Captain's Table.  
 MATT DENNIS: Encore.  
 FIREHOUSE FIVE (Plus Two): Mocambo on Mondays, Trianon Saturdays.  
 CHICK FLOYD: Roosevelt Hotel.  
 DICK STABILE: Ciro's.  
 MARTHA DAVIS: Surf Club.  
 ARTHUR VAN: Colonial Ballroom.



ON THE JOB at the Hotel Statler's Cafe Rouge in New York, Anthony poses with his singer, Betty Holliday, who joined the Anthony ork just a few weeks before the Statler date. Ronnie Deauville also is singing with Anthony after a long leave of absence.

## Dixieland Roars Back - - - 15 Bands Featured in Los Angeles Area Alone

The rollicking revival of Dixieland, born on the west coast and fanned to a flame here since January, hit a new high in March when Nappy Lamare's Strawhat Seven moved into plushy Ciro's on the Sunset Strip on an engagement which was going strong as the Cap News rolled on the press.

### Colleges Book 'Em, Too

Lamare, playing banjo and guitar, was booked for two weeks. And it all came about as a result of the astounding increase in popularity of Dixie and unquestionably—the competing Mocambo which built its traditionally

sluggish Monday nights into SRO sell-outs with the red-shirted Firehouse Five Plus Two.

Record companies were swinging onto the Dixie bandwagon, and leaders like Lamare, Pete Daily, Red Nichols, Kid Ory, Ben Pollack, Ted Vesely, Marvin Ash and Albert Nicholas, all veterans, were scurrying around Southern California on their nights off playing college dates and private parties for fat fees.

Clyde Hurley, a one-time Glenn Miller trumpeter, turned maestro and replaced Irvin (Cajun) Verret at the Hangover Club. Bill Covey, former Bobby Sherwood and Jimmy Dorsey saxist, formed a Dixie combo and was concluding a run at the CLC Club in late March.

At one time in March, 15 Dixie groups were working in the Greater Los Angeles area. And that figure does not include solo pianists like Marvin Ash, Jess Stacy and Freddy Slack, who all have been leaning heavily, recently, on Mason-Dixon standards and old-time rag and honky-tonk classics.

### Zutty Off To Chicago

Zutty Singleton left Lamare to join an all-star Dixie group in Chicago with Art Hodes, Pee Wee Russell and others. Lamare replaced him with Roy Hart. Lamare also brought in Joe Graves on trumpet and Jack Peoples, pianist. Warren Smith, trombonist, left Pete Daily and will soon be leading his own group.

## Capitol Hits

'MY FOOLISH HEART' - Margaret Whiting

'DEARIE' - Stafford-MacRae

'BEYOND THE SUNSET' - Stafford-MacRae

'THE GODS WERE ANGRY WITH ME'

'BROKEN DOWN MERRY-GO-ROUND'

Whiting-Wakely

'THERE'S A HOLE IN THE IRON CURTAIN'

- Mickey Katz

'BOUNCING BALL BOOGIE' - Sugar Chile Robinson

'WILHELMINA' - Jan Garber

'I ALMOST LOST MY MIND' - Nat 'King' Cole

'(IF I KNEW YOU WERE COMIN')  
 'I'D'VE BAKED A CAKE' - Benny Strong

'SPAGHETTI RAG' - Ray Anthony

'WHERE IN THE WORLD' - Ray Anthony

'DON'T SAVE IT TOO LONG' - Julia Lee

'BONAPARTE'S RETREAT' - Kay Starr

*All on either 78 or 45 rpm*



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## A Foggy Night ... In New York



MANHATTAN'S BOP CITY, which has prospered in recent months playing non-bopping attractions, drew four prominent New York radio jocks last month during Mel Torme's two-week stand. They comprised Bill Williams, Hal Jackson, Geoff Davis and Fred Robbins, who hung the "Velvet Fog" tag on Torme a couple of years back when he was on WOV. Torme, a former Chicagoan who now lives in California, is featured in the new "California Suite" album. He composed it, helped arrange it (with Harold Mooney) and sings it. Capitol has just put it in the stalls coast to coast.